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September 2, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445-12th Street, SW, Room TW-B204 Washington, DC 20554

Re:

Universal Service Certification

47 USC 254(e); 47 CFR SECTION 54.314

Dear Ms.Dortch:

On May 23, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued its Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256, adopting Rural Task Force's proposed framework for rural high cost reform. In its Order, the FCC concluded that the mandate in section 254(e) that universal service support be used "only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended" applies to all carriers, rural and non-rural, that are designated as eligible to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. Accordingly, the FCC's Order requires states that wish to receive federal universal service high-cost support for rural carriers within their boundaries to file a certification with the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) stating that federal high-cost funds flowing to rural carriers in that state will be used in a manner consistent with section 254(e). Absent such certification, carriers will not receive such support. The FCC's Order requires that state regulatory authorities file a letter with the FCC and USAC certifying that rural carriers are in compliance with section 254(e) of the Act by October 1, 2001, and October 1 of each subsequent year.

In Administrative Session on September 2, 2003, the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) approved certification that the attached list of Georgia rural local exchange carriers will be using support received under section 214(e) consistent with the requirements of section 254(e) and are therefore eligible to continue to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. The appropriate certification is also being conveyed to the Universal Service Administrative Company.

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch September 2, 2003 Page 2

The Georgia Public Service Commission respectfully submits this certification.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Baker, Jr.

Chairman

Georgia Public Service Commission

RBB/RT/rp

Attachment

Georgia Rural Local Exchange Carriers Universal Service Certification 47 USC 254Oe); CFR Section 54.314

- 1. Accucomm Telecommunications, Inc.
- 2. ALLTEL Georgia, Inc.
- 3. ALLTEL Georgia Communications Corp.
- 4. Georgia ALLTEL Telecom, Inc.
- 5. Georgia Telephone Corporation
- 6. Standard Telephone Company
- 7. Alma Telephone Company, Inc.
- 8. Brantley Telephone Company, Inc.
- 9. Bulloch County Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
- 10. Chickamauga Telephone Corporation
- 11. Citizens Telephone Company, Inc.
- 12. Coastal Utilities, Inc.
- 13. ComSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
- 14. Darien Telephone Company, Inc.
- 15. Ellijay Telephone Company
- 16. Frontier Communications of Fairmount, Inc.
- 17. Frontier Communications of Georgia, Inc.
- 18. GTC, Inc. d/b/a GT Com
- 19. Glenwood Telephone Company
- 20. Hart Telephone Company
- 21. Interstate Telephone Company
- 22. Pembroke Telephone Company, Inc.
- 23. Pineland Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
- 24. Plant Telephone Company
- 25. Planters Rural Telephone Coop
- 26. Progressive Rural Telephone Co-op, Inc.
- 27. Public Service Telephone Company
- 28. Ringgold Telephone Company
- 29 Blue Ridge Telephone Company
- 30. Camden Telephone Company
- 31. Quincy Telephone Company
- 32. Nelson Ball Ground Telephone Company
- 33. Trenton Telephone Company
- 34. Waverly Hall Telephone Company
- 35. Wilkes Telephone & Electric Company